

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF MEETINGS

COMMITTEE/ GROUP	CONCORDIA COUNCIL ON STUDENT LIFE	CODE	76/77-3
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representative to the Executive Committee of the Day Care Centre. Mr. Rennie asked that members of the Steering Committee keep this request in mind as it will appear on the agenda of their next meeting.

ACTION

1.2 An office for the CCSL secretariat has been obtained in Hingston Hall, Room 413, the Chairman reported, and a telephone will be installed shortly. Secretarial candidates are being interviewed by Miss Brundage and it is hoped that a final selection can be made within the next week.

1.3 The Chairman then expressed thanks, on behalf of the Council, to Miss Brundage who has served as secretary for its first few meetings.

1.4 Dean Audet enquired if it would be in order to ask the Chairman to give the Council his definition of the role and responsibilities of the chair. In the Dean's opinion, the chairman's role is "essentially to co-ordinate and facilitate to enable the Council to function smoothly. . . . The chairman is not a new Vice-Rector for Student Services. The power of the Council lies in the members who have been elected to it by their various constituencies." Mr. Rennie replied that he agreed with the gist of Dean Audet's remarks. There were no further comments on this subject.

2.0 With regard to the Minutes of the Meeting of October 12, 1976, Mr. Lafontaine referred to item 4.3.2 and stated that the LSA wished to replace its member on the Finance Committee, Mr. Hebert, with Mr. Paul Leblanc. In answer to the Chairman's question as to whether or not Mr. Leblanc was a member of the Council, Mr. Lafontaine replied that he was. It was then moved, seconded and carried unanimously that the Minutes of the meeting of October 12, 1976 be approved.

3.0 The report of the Steering Committee, copies of which members had in front of them, was then read by Ms. Kubicek, who moved and was seconded by Dean Flynn, as follows:

RESOLVED: THAT the Council accept the Report of the Steering Committee as read.

3.1 Dean Audet raised the question of situations where members might wish to bring an item to a particular Council meeting but where time did not allow for its consideration by Steering Committee. Mr. Rennie replied that the purpose of Steering Committee is to prioritize and clarify items for Council's agenda and that circumvention of this procedure would mean that information could not be developed to facilitate Council deliberations. In cases where the item is neither particularly important nor contentious, however, it may be brought to the Council through the Chairman. In all other instances, the procedure which calls for appraisal of Steering Committee will be followed.

3.2 The question of the Motion contained in item 3.0 above was called and carried.

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4.0	<p>Mr. Macaluso, Chairman of the Finance Committee, distributed copies of the Motion which the Committee had prepared for the Council's consideration and spoke briefly of its development. The presence of seven members will constitute a quorum, proxies will be permitted, meetings will be closed and the proceedings confidential. After extending thanks on behalf of the Committee to the employees of the student services areas and the Vice-Rector, Mr. Macaluso introduced Mr. Davies, a member of the Finance Committee to speak to the Motion and answer questions with regard to it.</p>	ACTION
4.1	<p>The role of the Finance Committee, as Mr. Davies explained it, will be to obtain financial information, organize it and recommend a course of action to the Council. The Finance Committee should take the initiative in investigating alternate methods of financing student services. Because the Mandate of the Council is vague with regard to its role in areas of student life which are not student services, the Committee will deal with the student services areas first. The guidelines within which the Committee proposed to operate are contained in the Motion which Mr. Macaluso distributed, the acceptance of which Mr. Davies then moved and Mr. Wisniewski seconded.</p>	
4.2	<p>Mr. Lafontaine said that he would like to propose the following changes to the Motion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) In the fifth line of the first paragraph, the words "be approved by the CCSL" be altered to read, "be submitted for approval by the CCSL". (b) In the first line of the second paragraph, the words "Finance Committee" be changed to read, "Council". (c) To the last line of the third paragraph, the phrase, "such decisions shall be brought to the attention of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the CCSL", should be added after the semi-colon. (d) A fifth paragraph should be added stating that the Finance Committee shall carry out any other business delegated to it by the CCSL. 	
4.3	<p>Dean Audet proposed that the Council study the Motion paragraph by paragraph. The Chairman, having obtained the concurrence of Messrs. Davies and Wisniewski, ruled that such procedure would be followed.</p>	
4.4	<p>Consideration of first paragraph of Motion dealing with the Finance Committee</p>	
4.4.1	<p>Dean Flynn pointed out that the reference to the submission of budgets by the four Student Services Departments in the paragraph does not ensure that the Council will receive all of the information it will</p>	

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require to make budget decisions. Much of the overall data rests in the office of the Vice-Rector and Principal of Loyola Campus to whom the four Directors submit their individual budgets, which become part of the integrated, official student services budget. The Dean moved, therefore, and it was seconded by Dean Audet as follows:

RESOLVED: THAT the words "by the four Student Services Departments" in the third line of the first paragraph of the Motion drafted by the Finance Committee be replaced by the words, "by the Vice-Rector and Principal of Loyola Campus".

4.4.2 Ms. Marrelli spoke of the danger of the Finance Committee assuming the power of setting priorities, either implicitly or explicitly. Lengthy discussion ensued, from which the following points emerged:

- (a) In the UCSL experience, priorities were, in fact, set by the Budget and Finance Committee because finances were a prime focus of the Council's interest while priorities were not. This is something the Council should be very sensitive to because there is a danger that even if the Finance Committee does not set itself to deal with priorities they are apt to emerge as a by-product of the budget process.
- (b) The Finance Committee is, nevertheless, only a part of the Council and is empowered to recommend not legislate. If the question of priorities is reserved to the Council as a whole, then the Finance Committee must be cognizant of its decisions and deliberate in conformity with them.

4.4.3 The Chairman then reviewed the suggested amendments to the first paragraph of the Motion as contained in Mr. Lafontaine's statement appearing in Item 4.2 and Dean Flynn's proposed resolution appearing in Item 4.4.1. Mr. Lafontaine then obtained the concurrence of the mover and seconder of the original Motion, Messrs. Davies and Wisniewski, to the incorporation of his suggested amendment. The Chairman then called for a vote on the Motion, as amended, which would read as follows:

RESOLVED: THAT the Finance Committee be empowered to recommend to CCSL that budgets and other financial information submitted by the Vice-Rector, and Principal of Loyola Campus, having been reviewed and revised as necessary by the Finance Committee, be submitted for approval by the CCSL and presentation to the Board of Governors.

The Motion carried, twenty votes in favour, three abstentions.

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4.5	Consideration of second paragraph of Motion dealing with the Finance Committee	ACTION
4.5.1	Mr. Davies moved and Mr. Wisniewski seconded the acceptance of the second paragraph of the Motion as proposed by the Finance Committee.	
4.5.2	Dean Flynn enquired as to the extent of the investigative authority this paragraph conferred on the Finance Committee. Is it their intention to go to individual departments such as Health Services or the Chaplaincy in their quest for information, or will such requests be channelled through the Directors' offices? Mr. Lafontaine said that he thought the Council had established that the route would be through the Vice-Rector, and Principal of Loyola Campus. The Chairman observed that obviously the Directors preferred that the Finance Committee go through them when they are looking for statistics or figures.	
4.5.3	In answer to a question regarding the power of CCSL to delegate "all the powers of the Board of Governors in seeking any financial information concerning student services", Mr. Counihan said that the Committee had been advised by a member of the Board that such delegation was proper.	
4.5.4	After some discussion as to the nature of the power which the Council wished to extend to the Committee and the latitude which the Committee will need if it is to operate effectively, the following amendment was moved by Prof. Adler and seconded by Dean Flynn:	
	RESOLVED: THAT the wording of the second paragraph of the Motion drafted by the Finance Committee be altered so that it will read as follows: "the Finance Committee be given access to all financial information concerning student services".	
4.5.5	Dean Flynn enquired if the foregoing resolution would mean that the salaries of individual employees would be required by the Committee. Mr. Counihan replied that it was not intended that names be revealed or that salary data be isolated individually.	
4.5.6	Mr. Lafontaine then moved, Ms. Litner seconded and it carried that the question of the amendment be called. The amended Resolution appearing in item 4.5.4 carried, twenty-four in favour, one abstention.	
4.6	Consideration of third paragraph of Motion dealing with the Finance Committee	
4.6.1	Mr. Davies moved and Mr. James seconded the acceptance of the third paragraph of the Motion as proposed by the Finance Committee.	

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4.6.2	<p>It was explained by Mr. Davies that, with the inclusion of this paragraph, the Finance Committee intended to provide for those situations where a decision could not await a scheduled Council meeting. Mr. Lafontaine then moved and Dean Flynn seconded, as follows:</p> <p>RESOLVED: THAT following the semi-colon at the end of the third paragraph of the Motion proposed by the Finance Committee the words, "such decisions shall be brought to the attention of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the CCSL", be added.</p>	ACTION
4.6.3	<p>Lengthy debate followed. Some Council members were reluctant to empower the Committee to disburse funds, even in emergency situations unless a limit was set on the amount which could be committed in this way at any one time. An amendment, moved by Prof. Adler and seconded by Dean Audet, that a limit of \$200 be stipulated in the Motion, was subsequently withdrawn by the mover and seconder.</p>	
4.6.4	<p>On the other hand, as Ms. Litner and Mr. Hebert pointed out, the Finance Committee has at least one member from each of the constituencies represented on the Council and should, therefore, have the confidence of the Council. The Finance Committee assumes that it will operate within an atmosphere of trust and credibility particularly since, in this instance, it is provided that the Committee will act at the discretion of the Council Chairman.</p>	
4.6.5	<p>Prof. Adler said that she felt that the power of dealing with emergency situations should not reside with the Finance Committee but with the Steering Committee in order that decisions which may, in effect, be determining policy not be taken within a predominantly financial context. Mr. James objected to this suggestion because, as he said, he saw no reason to transform the Steering Committee into an executive committee.</p>	
4.6.6	<p>The Chairman then called the question of the amendment to the Motion, as it appears in Item 4.6.2. By a vote of nineteen in favour, three opposed and three abstentions, the amendment carried.</p>	
4.6.7	<p>Following further discussion which disclosed that some councillors still harboured doubts about this paragraph, Mr. James, on behalf of the Finance Committee, withdrew this section of the Motion.</p>	
4.7	<p>Consideration of fourth paragraph of Motion dealing with the Finance Committee</p>	
4.7.1	<p>Mr. Davies moved and Ms. Litner seconded the acceptance of the fourth paragraph as proposed by the Finance Committee.</p>	
4.7.2	<p>Dean Flynn enquired as to whether the Finance Committee was thinking of proposing to set student services fees on a percentage basis</p>	

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rather than by the method which now prevails. Mr. Davies replied that no specific alternatives had been discussed by the Committee but it wishes to reserve the right to investigate the area of student services financing in general. Messrs. Counihan and Macaluso stressed the importance of the research function of the Committee to the development of recommendations for the Council's consideration.

4.7.3 The question of the fourth paragraph of the Motion proposed by the Finance Committee was then called and carried.

4.8 Mr. Lafontaine then moved, Ms. Litner seconded, and it carried as follows:

RESOLVED: THAT a paragraph be added to the Motion proposed by the Finance Committee to read as follows: "the Finance Committee shall carry out any other business delegated to it by the CCSL".

4.8.1 The proposal, offered by Dean Flynn, that the Finance Committee be mandated to review appeals of students with regard to student services fees, was felt to place an excessive burden on the Committee. Mr. Lafontaine said that the amount of money involved was too small to warrant Committee review and that these appeals should be handled by the administration.

4.8.2 Mr. Counihan then moved and Mr. Macaluso seconded as follows:

RESOLVED: THAT a paragraph be added to the Motion proposed by the Finance Committee to read as follows: "the Finance Committee is instructed by the Council to study the financial aspects of a variety of matters relating to student life including food services, locker rentals, parking and bookstore services".

4.8.3 Mr. Lafontaine said that insertion in the Motion of the paragraph appearing in Item 4.8 provides for the Finance Committee to study, at the Council's discretion, aspects of areas affecting student life. He further agreed with Mr. James' view that, in this first year of operation, the Finance Committee will be sufficiently occupied in dealing with the financial aspects of the four student services. Ms. Litner pointed out that student services fees do not contribute to the financing of the areas mentioned in Mr. Counihan's Motion. The financial operation of these areas does not affect the student services budget and, for this reason, Ms. Litner agreed with Ms. Marrelli that study of these areas should not be a function of the Finance Committee.

4.8.4 The question of the Resolution appearing in Item 4.8.2 was called, and defeated.

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4.9	A Motion charging the Finance Committee to prepare for the next Council meeting a preamble to its Motion clearly stating where the responsibility for determining priorities lies, was moved by Ms. Marrelli, seconded by Prof. Adler and subsequently withdrawn when it was established that the Finance Committee was not the appropriate forum for discussion of this issue.	
4.9.1	Dean Flynn then moved, Dean Audet seconded and it carried as follows: RESOLVED: THAT the Steering Committee examine the possibility of reserving a time slot on the agenda of the next Council meeting for the discussion of priorities.	
4.10	The Chairman then declared discussion of the Finance Committee closed.	
5.0	Dean Flynn suggested that distribution of a synopsis of the proceedings of Council meetings to all University media might generate useful publicity for the Council.	
6.0	The Chairman then declared the meeting recessed for the purpose of allowing the secretary to tabulate members' responses to the questionnaire dealing with day of the week and time for future meetings.	
6.1	At the Chairman's request the meeting reconvened and he announced that the results of the poll indicated that Tuesday at 5:30 P.M. was the time favoured by most members for future meetings. It having been established that Prof. Robbins, Faculty Representative, Sir George Williams Campus, will not be able to attend at this time, the following was moved by Prof. Adler, seconded and carried: RESOLVED: THAT the CCSL Chairman, Mr. Rennie, contact Prof. Robbins to discuss the appropriate method of replacing Prof. Robbins on the Council.	
7.0	The Chairman reported Steering Committee's recommendation that regular CCSL meetings be held every third Tuesday. Steering Committee will call special meetings of Council should circumstances arise which indicate it is desirable to do so.	
7.1	There being no objection raised to Steering Committee's recommendation, the Chairman declared that the next regular meeting of Council will take place on Tuesday, November 16, 1976, in Room AD-128 on the Loyola Campus.	
8.0	Pursuant to a suggestion made by Mr. Lafontaine, the following was moved by Dean Audet, seconded by Prof. Adler and carried: RESOLVED: THAT, at its next regular meeting, CCSL undertake a detailed study of the Mandate of Steering Committee.	

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.